

to go. This was a giant first step, a step in concord, and we are so grateful that President Biden put together a plan, with input from so many of us—both sides of the aisle—to bring America back, to overcome this horrible crisis and then move America forward so that America can once again feel the hope and opportunity that has been so, so much part of this land but that we seem to have lost over the last 4 years and particularly with the pandemic.

So we will keep working as hard as we can to pass this legislation through the House, through the Senate, as we go through the reconciliation process and hopefully put it on the President's desk.

A month ago today, two Senators from Georgia, two Democratic Senators, were elected, and just a month from that day, we have taken a giant step to begin to fulfill our promise to the American people that a Democratic Senate, a Democratic House, and President Biden will have their backs and move them forward during this awful crisis.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DURBIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BILL SHEFFIELD

• Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, along with Senator MURKOWSKI and Alaska Congressman DON YOUNG, we rise to congratulate and pay special tribute to a great, hard-working, and inspiring Alaskan, the Honorable Bill Sheffield, former Governor of Alaska, upon the occasion of his receiving an honorary doctorate of humane letters from the University of Alaska. On Sunday, December 13, 2020, the University of Alaska Anchorage awarded Governor Bill Sheffield this special degree at its fall commencement ceremonies.

Born in Spokane, WA, and raised in the Seattle area, Governor Sheffield served in the U.S. Air Force, worked as a sales and service rep for Sears Roebuck, and was transferred by Sears to Alaska in 1953. He went into the hospitality business, establishing the Anchorage Inn. Bill bought out his business partner, expanded his hotel holdings, and grew his hotel empire to 19 properties in Alaska and the Yukon.

He was elected the fifth Governor of our State in 1982. During his tenure, he oversaw massive infrastructure projects, including roads and water systems. He pushed through a bill that consolidated the State's four time zones into two and is responsible for creating Alaska Standard and Alaska

Daylight Time. Governor Bill was instrumental in the purchase of the Alaska Railroad by the State from the Federal Government and commissioned the construction of Spring Creek Correctional Facility in Seward. His accomplishments are many and his love of Alaska and his kindness, warmth, and generosity to its people are widely known.

The Governor is 92 and going strong. Governor Sheffield's story in Alaska embodies what many of us love about our great State. It doesn't matter where you come from or your social status. In Alaska, if you have grit, tenacity, determination, and a servant's heart, nothing can hold you back. As the 117th Congress begins, we want to say Congratulations, Governor Sheffield, upon the occasion of your much-deserved honorary doctorate.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a nomination and sundry withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committee.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-278. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-557, "Diverse Washingtonians Commemorative Works Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-279. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-558, "Commemoration Task Force Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-280. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-559, "Antitrust Remedies Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-281. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-561, "Removing Barriers to Occupational Licensing for Returning Citizens Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-282. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report

on D.C. Act 23-562, "Service Animal in Training Clarification Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-283. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-563, "Ban on Non-Compete Agreements Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-284. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-613, "Entheogenic Plant and Fungus Policy Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-285. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-529, "Closing of Columbian Quarter Alley in Square 5860 Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-286. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-530, "Closing of a Public Alley in Square 740, S.O. 18-41567, Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-287. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-531, "Closing of Public Streets and Alleys and Dedication of Land for Public Street and Alley Purposes Adjacent to Squares 3039, 3040, and 3043, S.O. 17-21093 and S.O. 17-21094, Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-288. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-532, "Minor Consent for Vaccinations Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-289. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-529, "Opioid Overdose Treatment and Prevention Omnibus Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-290. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-537, "Vulnerable User Collision Recovery Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-291. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-538, "Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-292. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-539, "Energy Efficiency Standards Amendment Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-293. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-541, "Appraisal Management Company Regulation Act of 2020"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-294. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-542, "Zero Waste Omnibus